Montana Early Childhood Connections:

linking standards and guidelines for best practices.

2006

Connecting the Montana Early Learning Guidelines, Head Start Performance Standards, Montana Early Care & Education Knowledge Base, and the Montana K-12 Standards.

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INTRODUCTION

When the Montana Early Learning Guidelines were created in 2003, the Head Start Performance Standards and Child Outcomes were used as a foundation. The Knowledge Base and K-12 standards were also used as guides. The process of creating the Early Learning Guidelines was prompted by the Federal Child Care Bureau. The Early Childhood Services Bureau of DPHHS contracted with the Early Childhood Project at MSU to lead the effort. A large group of diverse professionals gathered to create the Montana Early Learning Guidelines.

Our goal in producing this "Connections" document is to provide a single source of information for all adults who teach and care for young children in Montana. It is especially intended for the education staff of Head Start programs and elementary school staff to show the "connections" between the Montana Early Learning Guidelines and other standards that exist for those educators. It is not our intent to compare but to illustrate different methods employed to express similar expectations. Programs have standards arranged by similar content areas and that children develop skills along a developmental continuum when adults apply the principles of developmentally appropriate practices. However, each document is written for a specific purpose and specific audience and also includes sections of guidance, directions principles and other specifics. For each complete document and complete information, we refer the reader to the Bibliography for each document.

By locating the Early Learning Guidelines in one document with the Head Start Performance Standards, the Early Childhood Knowledge Base and K-12 Standards, a professional can easily determine if and how each is related. For example: A Head Start teacher with a classroom of older four year olds may be concerned or curious as to what is expected in Kindergarten; or he/she may need to know what is expected in the early childhood field in Montana and how his/her performance fits in that system; or a Kindergarten teacher might be supported in efforts to transition a child to the classroom by reviewing standards and expectations from the various early childhood programs that a child attended; or a trainer or instructor could use this document to assist students to find real life examples of these standards and connections in practice observations.

Many other standards could have been included but size and ease of use were priorities. We refer people to the "Early Childhood Program Standards Comparison Document" published by our office in 2000 for other standards and how they compare to the Head Start Performance Standards. We also refer people to other useful documents and publications such as NAEYC Accreditation Standards and Caring for Our Children health standards.

Our intent is to illustrate connections between guidelines and standards across the early childhood field in Montana. We asked the questions: How do the Early Learning Guidelines align with Head Start Performance Standards and K-12 Standards? Are they all connected for best practices when teaching young children? How can professionals easily see that the Early Learning Guidelines are useful and based on established standards?

We welcome your comments and experiences when using this document and hope that it is a learning tool that is useful in visualizing our many connections across quality early childhood programs.

MONTANA EARLY LEARNING GUIDELINES

Montana's Early Learning Guidelines reflect what children need to know, understand, and be able to do by the time they reach kindergarten. They are written to address what adults can observe in children ages 3-5, and the ways they can support a child's individual development. The Guidelines are meant to be inclusive of all children and all of the settings in which they spend time before elementary school, whether that be at home, in a child care facility, at a Head Start program, in a preschool, or in any other setting. Montana's Early Learning Guidelines are a voluntary set of what some may call "child outcomes:" They are meant to be used as a tool for early care and education practitioners, parents, elementary school teachers, or anyone else living and working with young children to recognize and support all children at the developmental level they exhibit. The Guidelines are not a diagnostic tool, an assessment tool, or a mandatory set of regulations.

Montana's Early Learning Guidelines are written with the concept of Developmentally Appropriate Practice as its base. Developmentally Appropriate Practice results from the process of adults making decisions about the well-being and education of children based on at least three important kinds of information or knowledge: what is known about child development and learning; what is known about the strengths, interests, and needs of each individual child; and knowledge of the social and cultural contexts in which children live to ensure that learning experiences are meaningful, relevant, and respectful (NAEYC, 1996).

Knowing that development occurs at a unique pace for each individual child, the examples given to demonstrate what a child may know, understand, and be able to do are not meant to be exclusive nor exhaustive. While an adult may or may not observe some of these examples in an individual child, this does not suggest that the child is either advanced or delayed in his/her development. The examples are meant to clarify in the adult's mind what type of observable behaviors children may exhibit before they reach kindergarten. The purpose is to help the adult concentrate on ways to support optimal learning in the child.

Montana's Early Learning Guidelines are meant to facilitate certain outcomes for children, not to assess a child's progress or development.

For more information:

Department of Public Health & Human Services/Early Childhood Services Bureau, 406-444-1788, www.dphhs.mt.gov or 406-444-1400.

HEAD START PROGRAM

The Head Start Program, which is authorized under the Federal Head Start Act, provides grants to local public and private nonprofit and for-profit agencies to provide comprehensive child development services to economically disadvantaged children and families, with a special focus on helping children develop the early literacy and numeracy skills they need to be successful in school. Intended primarily for preschoolers from low-income families, Head Start promotes school readiness by enhancing the social and cognitive development of children through the provision of educational, health, nutritional, social, and other services. Head Start programs emphasize cognitive, language, and socio-emotional development to enable each child to develop and function at his or her highest potential. At least 10 percent of the enrollment opportunities in each program must be made available to children with disabilities.

Head Start engages parents in their children's learning and helps them in making progress toward their educational, literacy, and employment goals. The Head Start program also emphasizes significant involvement of parents in the administration of local Head Start programs. In 1995, the Early Head Start program was established in recognition of the mounting evidence that the earliest years, from birth to 3 years of age, matter a great deal to children's growth and development.

Head Start is administered by the Head Start Bureau of the Administration on Children, Youth and Families (ACYF). ACYF is a part of the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Head Start program requirements are specified in federal law.

HEAD START PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

The *Head Start Performance Standards* are regulations establishing performance standards and minimum requirements with respect to health, education, parent involvement, nutrition, social, transition, and other Head Start services as well as administrative and financial management, facilities, and other appropriate program areas. These regulations define standards and minimum requirements for the entire range of Early Head Start and Head Start services, including those specified in authorizing legislation. Early Head Start and Head Start grantee and delegate agencies must comply with these requirements. Each program must conduct a program self assessment annually and every three years is reviewed by an outside federal team of trained reviewers to establish compliance.

Note: you will find the same or similar performance standards used repeatedly throughout the document in order to facilitate easy reference instead of having to flip back and forth between pages.

HEAD START CHILD OUTCOMES

The Head Start Child Outcomes are intended to guide Head Start programs in their ongoing assessment of the progress and accomplishments of children and in efforts to analyze and use data on child outcomes in program self-assessment and continuous improvement. The Outcomes Framework is composed of 8 general Domains, 27 Domain Elements, and

100 examples of more specific Indicators of children's skills, abilities, knowledge, and behaviors. The *Outcomes Framework* is based on the Head Start Program Performance Standards, Head Start Performance Measures, provisions of the Head Start Act as amended in 1998, advice of the Head Start Bureau Technical Work Group on Child Outcomes, and a review of documents on assessment of young children and early childhood program accountability from a variety of state agencies and professional organizations.

- The Domains, Elements and Indicators are presented as a framework of building blocks that are important for school success. The Framework is not an exhaustive list of everything a child should know or be able to do by the end of preschool. The Framework is intended to guide assessment of 3- to 5-year old children only, not for infants, toddlers and pregnant women enrolled in Early Head Start or Migrant Head Start programs.
- The Framework should guide agencies in selecting, developing or adapting an instrument or set of tools for ongoing assessment of children's progress. It is not intended to be used directly as a checklist for assessing children.
- Every Head Start program should have a well-balanced child assessment system, aligned with their curriculum that gathers data on children's progress in each of the 8 Domains of learning and development. In addition, because they are legislatively mandated, programs must gather and analyze data on 13 specific Domain Elements or Indicators in various language, literacy and numeracy skills.
- Information on children's progress on the Domains, Domain Elements and Indicators can be obtained from multiple sources, such as teacher observations, analysis of samples of children's work and performance, parent reports, or direct assessment of children. Head Start assessment practices should reflect the assumption that children demonstrate progress over time in development and learning on a developmental continuum, in forms such as increasing frequency of a behavior or ability; increasing breadth or depth of knowledge and understanding; or increasing proficiency or independence in exercising a skill or ability.

HEAD START PRISM QUESTIONS

The Head Start Act mandates that each Head Start grantee receive a full review at least once every 3 years, that each new program be reviewed after the completion of its first year (and then at least every 3 years thereafter), and that follow-up reviews be conducted for grantees that substantially fail to meet applicable standards. During an on-site review, a team of qualified reviewers, led by a team leader, assesses whether or not the Head Start program is in compliance with all statutory (i.e., Head Start Act and other applicable laws), regulatory (i.e., Performance Standards and other applicable Federal, state, and local regulations), and policy requirements.

The Program Review Instrument for Systems Monitoring (PRISM) is both a set of instruments and the process used to conduct Federal monitoring of Head Start grantees. PRISM was developed to integrate into the monitoring process the 1998 revisions to the Performance Standards, which reorganized the standards to reduce fragmentation and encourage holistic approaches to the delivery of quality services. PRISM organizes elements in the Performance Standards, other program regulations, and portions of the Head Start Act into Core Questions. Each Core Question addresses a set of related items and prompts the review team to assess whether the Performance Standards related to the Core Question are being met. Included are nine questions on the program services and partnerships that all Head Start grantees must implement. (Reviewers with primary responsibility for these

Core Questions are the **Service Reviewers**.) The remaining nine questions focus on the program systems that are in place to support delivery of services and partnership building. (Reviewers with primary responsibility for these Core Questions are the **Systems Reviewers**.)

The **PRISM Instrument** is the tool that review team members use to gather data to answer the Core Questions. The specific tools contained within the PRISM Instrument include:

- The set of 18 Core Questions;
- Guidance on conducting internal review team meetings;
- Guidance on conducting an initial meeting with grantee management and staff;
- Protocols for interviewing grantee staff, Head Start families, Policy Council and Governing Body members, and child care and other community partners; and
- Instruments and checklists for recording observations during visits to classrooms, homes, and other locations.

For more information:

Montana Head Start/State Collaboration Office, Mary Jane Standaert, Director, 406-444-0589, mjstandaert@mt.gov

Region VIII ACF Federal Office in Denver, Co, Deb Hedin, Program Specialist, 303-844-1154, dhedin@acf.hhs.gov

MONTANA EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION KNOWLEDGE BASE

The Montana Early Care and Education Knowledge Base includes nine key content areas that revolve around the core content area of Personal Dispositions with the content area of Cultural and Developmental Diversity embedded in every other area. The December 2004 version represents a complete update with major revisions recommended by the Early Childhood Higher Education Consortium, Career Development Advisory Board, and many dedicated teachers, directors, caregivers, trainers and others across Montana working in diverse settings.

Content areas delineate the knowledge, skills and dispositions desirable for early care and education practitioners working with children birth through age 8 and their families in a variety of settings (child care centers, preschools, Head Start and Early Head Start programs, family child care and group homes, Pre-K-3 public school classrooms, school-age programs, or private programs).

The Knowledge Base is developed around several assumptions which recognize that:

- 1. The expertise of the adults who work with children and their families are the keys to quality. This is impacted not only by training but also by developing personal attributes or dispositions. While dispositions are difficult to measure and often subjective, they critically impact the early childhood setting. In addition to reflecting upon their knowledge and skills, practitioners need to examine their own personal characteristics and to understand that these attributes are active, dynamic, always changing, and subject to growth. These dispositions were placed at the core of the Knowledge Base due to their importance and the impact these dispositions have on other content areas.
- 2. It is also recognized that cultural and developmental diversity impacts all other areas of the Knowledge Base. For this reason, cultural and developmental diversity is placed in the center with associated criteria being included in many content areas of the Knowledge Base.
- 3. Many roles and settings exist within the early childhood profession. Regardless of the role or setting, practitioners work with young children who have many similar needs. Therefore, one set of competencies was developed which is not separated by job location (e.g., home child care, public schools) or age of children (e.g., infant, school-age).
- 4. The Knowledge Base allows for differentiating assessment. It is presumed that with increased experience, training, and responsibility, early childhood practitioners will move toward more advanced knowledge, skills, and dispositions. However, it is also recognized that regardless of education and experience, practitioners will find that their skills, dispositions, and knowledge will vary based upon the criteria being assessed. For this reason, the Knowledge Base does not delineate a specific level of competence for any particular group (e.g., aides, teachers, directors). The Knowledge Base is not intended to assess where any particular individual "should be," but rather to identify where his/her abilities and skills currently lie and to serve as a comprehensive tool for goal-setting for future professional development.

For more information:

Montana Early Childhood Project, 406-994-4746, www.montana.edu/ecp

MONTANA K-12 STANDARDS

The Montana Board of Public Education is responsible for establishing and maintaining accreditation standards for all public schools in Montana. The effective operation of public

schools is dependent upon this common set of expectations for what public schools should provide to local communities. The standards establish the foundation for a basic system

of quality education for all Montana children, regardless of where they live. To that end, the accreditation manual includes standards to guide districts in such areas as: General

Provisions; School Leadership; Educational Opportunity; Academic Requirements; and School Facilities and Records. Thus the standards provide the structure and organization to

encourage a rich and positive learning environment. The Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Board of Public Education believe that basic academic requirements form the

solid foundation for each school's education program. Such a foundation ensures Montana citizens that its public schools are providing all children with challenging academic

expectations. These academic expectations are defined in the K-12 content and performance standards for all subject areas describing what all students should know, understand,

and be able to do. Standards are the framework and foundation by which district, school, and classroom curricula are developed or revised, organized, implemented, and assessed,

encouraging districts and teachers to place emphasis on critical areas of learning.

Currently, Montana does not have specific standards for grades K-3. The Content Standards listed in this document are general in nature and the benchmarks that apply to each

standard begin at grade 4 and can be found on the OPI web site. Each school district is responsible for articulating standards for grades K-3.

For more information: Montana Office of Public Instructions (OPI), 888-231-9393, www.opi.mt.gov

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MONTANA EARLY LEARNING GUIDELINES	HEAD START CHILD OUTCOMES (Domain, Domain Element, & Indicators)	HEAD START PERFORMANCE STANDARDS (Standard & Page #)	HEAD START PRISM QUESTIONS (# & Area)	MONTANA EARLY CARE & EDUCATION KNOWLEDGE BASE (Content Area & Page #)	MONTANA PUBLIC EDUCATION CONTENT STANDARDS
Creative Arts	Domain: Creative Arts	Early Childhood Development and Health Services: Education and Early Childhood Development 1304.21		Child Growth and Development,, Environmental Design, Curriculum, Observation and Assessment	Arts
1. Art Appreciation: Children express personal interests, ideas, and feelings through art and begin to share opinions about artwork and artistic experiences. 2. Art Production: Children use symbols, elements such as shape, line, color, and texture, and principles such as repetition in art experiences. 3. Art Elements: Children use different art media and materials in a variety of ways for creative expression, exploration, and sensory experience.	Domain Element: Art Indicators: -Gains ability in using different art media and materials in a variety of ways for creative expression and representationProgresses in abilities to create drawing, paintings, models, and other art creations that are more detailed, creative or realisticDevelops growing abilities to plan, work independently, and demonstrate care and persistence in a variety of art projectsBegins to understand and share opinions about artistic products and experiences.	1304.21(a)(1)(i-iv) – page 60-63: (a) Child development and education approach for all children: (1) In order to help children gain the social competence, skills and confidence necessary to be prepared to succeed in their present environment and with later responsibilities in school and life, grantee's approach to child development and education must: (i) Be developmentally and linguistically appropriate, recognizing that	#10 – Individualization: How does the grantee individualize the program of child development and health services to meet each child's unique characteristics, strengths, and needs, as determined in consultation with the family #11 – Disabilities Services: How does the grantee ensure that individualized services are effectively provided to children with diagnosed or suspected disabilities? #12 – Curriculum and Assessment: How has the grantee engaged in a	Child Growth and Development – pg. 12-15: Child Growth and Development reflects knowledge and understanding of developmental stages, processes, theories and their implications for work with young children and families. Environmental Design – pg. 16-18: Environmental Design includes knowledge of how to create safe, attractive, inviting, and well- organized learning spaces for young children that promote physical, social-	The Arts 1 – Create, perform/exhibit, and respond in the Arts. 2 – Apply and describe the concepts, structures, and processes in the Arts. 3 – Develop and refine arts skills and techniques to express ideas, pose and solve problems, and discover meaning. 4 – Analyze characteristics and merits of the student's work and the work of others. 5 – Understand the role of the Arts in society, diverse cultures and historical periods. 6 – Make connections among the Arts, other

MONTANA EARLY	HEAD START CHILD	HEAD START	HEAD START PRISM	MONTANA EARLY CARE	MONTANA PUBLIC
LEARNING GUIDELINES	OUTCOMES (Domain, Domain Element, &	PERFORMANCE STANDARDS	QUESTIONS (# & Area)	& EDUCATION KNOWLEDGE BASE	EDUCATION CONTENT STANDARDS
	Indicators)	(Standard & Page #)	(# & Alea)	(Content Area & Page #)	STANDARDS
4. Music Appreciation:	Domain Elements: Music &	individual rates of	selection and/or	creative development both	work.
Children show enjoyment	Movement Indicators:	development as well as	development,	indoors and outdoors.	.,
of music through facial	-Participates with increasing	individual interests.	implementation, and		
expressions, vocalizations,	interest and enjoyment in a	temperaments,	evaluation resulting in a	Curriculum – page 30-47:	
and various movements.	variety of music activities,	languages, cultural	written plan that supports	Curriculum encompasses	
	including listening, singing,	backgrounds, and	the growth of children's	developmentally	
5. Music Production:	finger plays, games, and	learning styles;	social competence,	appropriate practice that	
Children produce	performances.	(ii) Be inclusive of	including school readiness,	supports physical,	
vocal/instrumental music	-Experiments with a variety of	children with	for each identified program	social-emotional, cognitive,	
and rhythmic movements	musical instruments.	disabilities, consistent	option?	and creative development	
spontaneously and in	-Expresses through movement	with their		with: a balance of adult and	
imitation.	and dancing what is felt and	Individualized Family	#14 – Parent	child directed activities;	
	heard in various musical	Service Plan (IFSP) or	Involvement: How does	indoor and outdoor	
6. Music Elements:	tempos and styles.	Individualized	the grantee provide parent	experiences; individual,	
Children begin to	-Shows growth in moving in	Education Program	involvement opportunities?	small, and large group	
differentiate variations in	time to different patterns of	(IEP);		activities; blocks of	
tempo, dynamics, and types	beat and rhythm in music.	(iii) Provide an	#17 – Facilities, Materials,	uninterrupted time for	
of sounds made by different		environment of	Equipment, and	children to engage in self-	
classes of instruments		acceptance that	Transportation: How does	chosen activities; and	
(percussion, wind, and		supports and respects	the grantee ensure that	meaningful and relevant	
string).		gender, culture,	facilities, materials,	interaction with a variety of	
		language, ethnicity and	equipment, and	materials, children, and	
7. Drama Appreciation:	Domain Element: Dramatic	family composition;	transportation services,	adults.	
Children show appreciation	Play	(iv) Provide a balanced	when they are provided, are		
and awareness of drama	Indicators:	daily program of child-	safe, appropriate, and	Observation and	
through observation and	-Participates in a variety of	initiated and adult-	conducive to learning and	Assessment – page 48-50:	
imitation, and by	dramatic play activities that	directed activities,	reflective of the different	Observation and	
participating in simple	become more extended and	including individual	ages and stages of	Assessment includes	
dramatic plots, assuming	complex.	and small group	development of each child,	understanding the how and	
roles related to their life	-Shows growing creativity and	activities.	including children with	why of observing children	

MONTANA EARLY LEARNING GUIDELINES	HEAD START CHILD OUTCOMES (Domain, Domain Element, & Indicators)	HEAD START PERFORMANCE STANDARDS (Standard & Page #)	HEAD START PRISM QUESTIONS (# & Area)	MONTANA EARLY CARE & EDUCATION KNOWLEDGE BASE (Content Area & Page #)	MONTANA PUBLIC EDUCATION CONTENT STANDARDS
experiences. Young	imagination in using materials	(Standard & Page #) (a)(4)(ii) pg.68	disabilities, for the conduct	(Content Area & Page #) and the utilization of	
children enjoy telling	and in assuming different	Ensuring opportunities	of all program activities?	informal, authentic, and	
stories through action,	roles in dramatic play	for creative self-	or an program activities.	formal assessment	
dialogue or both.	situations.	expression through	#18 – Child Outcomes:	techniques as a tool for	
		activities such as art,	How has the grantee	curriculum planning, goal	
7. Drama Production:		music, movement, and	implemented requirements	setting for individuals in	
Children create and direct		dialogue.	related to child outcomes?	partnerships with parents,	
complex scenarios based on				and preparation	
individual and group		1304.21(a)(2)(i-ii) pg		of the learning environment	
experiences. Children		63-64: (2) Parents must		to enhance growth and	
create situations, arrange		be: (i) Invited to		learning.	
environments to bring their		become integrally			
drama to life, assume roles,		involved in the			
direct others and accept		development of the			
direction from others.		program's curriculum			
		and approach to child			
8. Drama Elements:		development and			
Children role play stories in		education; (ii) Provided			
books, poems and simple		opportunities to			
imaginary themes using		increase their child			
elements of drama		observation skills and			
including character, place, theme or idea.		to share assessments			
theme or idea.		with staff that will help			
		plan the learning experiences.			
		1304.21(c)(1)(i-vii) –			
		page 77-82:			
		(c) Child development			
		and education approach			
		for preschoolers.			

MONTANA EARLY LEARNING GUIDELINES	HEAD START CHILD OUTCOMES	HEAD START PERFORMANCE	HEAD START PRISM QUESTIONS	MONTANA EARLY CARE & EDUCATION	MONTANA PUBLIC EDUCATION CONTENT
	(Domain, Domain Element, &	STANDARDS	(# & Area)	KNOWLEDGE BASE	STANDARDS
	Indicators)	(Standard & Page #)		(Content Area & Page #)	
		(1) Grantee, in			
		collaboration with the			
		parents, must			
		implement a			
		curriculum that:			
		(i) Supports each			
		child's individual			
		pattern of development			
		and learning;			
		(ii) Provides for the			
		development of			
		cognitive skills by			
		encouraging each child			
		to organize his or her			
		experiences, to			
		understand concepts,			
		and to develop age			
		appropriate literacy,			
		numeracy, reasoning,			
		problem solving and			
		decision-making skills			
		which form a			
		foundation for school			
		readiness and later			
		school success;			
		(iii) Integrates all			
		educational aspects of			
		the health, nutrition,			
		and mental health			
		services into program			

MONTANA EARLY LEARNING GUIDELINES	HEAD START CHILD OUTCOMES (Domain, Domain Element, & Indicators)	HEAD START PERFORMANCE STANDARDS (Standard & Page #)	HEAD START PRISM QUESTIONS (# & Area)	MONTANA EARLY CARE & EDUCATION KNOWLEDGE BASE (Content Area & Page #)	MONTANA PUBLIC EDUCATION CONTENT STANDARDS
		activities; (iv) Ensures that the program environment helps children develop emotional security and facility in social relationships; (v) Enhances each child's understanding of self as an individual and as a member of a group; (vi) Provides each child with opportunities for success to help develop feelings of competence, self-esteem, and positive attitudes toward learning; and (vii) Provides individual and small group experiences both indoors and outdoors.			

MONTANA EARLY LEARNING GUIDELINES Language & Literacy	HEAD START CHILD OUTCOMES (Domain, Domain Element, & Indicators) Domains: Language Development & Literacy	HEAD START PERFORMANCE STANDARDS (Standard & Page #) Early Childhood Development and Health Services: Education/Early Childhood Development 1304.21	HEAD START PRISM QUESTIONS (# & Area)	MONTANA EARLY CARE & EDUCATION KNOWLEDGE BASE (Content Area & Page #) Child Growth and Development,, Environmental Design, Curriculum, Observation and Assessment	MONTANA PUBLIC EDUCATION CONTENT STANDARDS Literature, Reading, Speaking & Listening, Writing
		Βενειομπεπι 1304.21			
1. Receptive Language:	Domain: Listening &	1304.21(a)(1)(i-iv) -	#10 – Individualization:	Child Growth and	Literature:
Children enter into the	Understanding	page 60-63:	How does the grantee	Development – pg 12-15:	1 – Construct meaning as
exchange of information	Indicators:	(a) Child development	individualize the program	Child Growth and	students comprehend,
around what is seen, heard,	-Demonstrates increasing	and education approach	of child development and	Development reflects	interpret, analyze and
and experienced. They	ability to attend to and	for all children:	health services to meet each	knowledge and	respond to literary works.
begin to acquire the	understand conversations,	(1) In order to help	child's unique	understanding of	2 – Recognize and evaluate
concepts and language that	stories, songs, and poems.	children gain the social	characteristics, strengths,	developmental stages,	how language, literary
contribute to learning to	-Shows progress in	competence, skills and	and needs, as determined in	processes, theories and	devices, and elements
communicate and,	understanding and following	confidence necessary to	consultation with the	their implications for work	contribute to the meaning
eventually, to read.	simple and multiple-step	be prepared to succeed	family?	with young children and	and impact of literary
	directions.	in their present		families.	works.
	-Understands an increasingly	environment and with	#11 – Disabilities		3 – Reflect upon the
	complex and varied vocabulary.	later responsibilities in	Services: How does the	Environmental Design –	student's literary
	-For non-English-speaking	school and life,	grantee ensure that	page 16-18:	experiences and
	children, progresses in listening	grantee's approach to	individualized services are	Environmental Design	purposefully select from a
	to and understanding English.	child development and	effectively provided to	includes knowledge of how	range of works.
		education must:	children with diagnosed or	to create safe, attractive,	4 – Interact with print and
2. Expressive Language:	Domain Element: Speaking &	(i) Be developmentally	suspected disabilities?	inviting, and well-	nonprint literary works
Children learn when they	Communicating	and linguistically		organized learning spaces	from various cultures,
talk out loud. Children use	Indicators:	appropriate,	#12 – Curriculum and	for young children that	ethnic groups, traditional
words to help adults and	-Develops increasing abilities	recognizing that	Assessment: How has the	promote physical, social-	and contemporary
others to understand their	to understand and use language	children have	grantee engaged in a	emotional, cognitive, and	viewpoints written by both
needs, ask questions,	to communicate information,	individual rates of	process of curriculum	creative development both	genders.

MONTANA EARLY	HEAD START CHILD	HEAD START	HEAD START PRISM	MONTANA EARLY CARE	MONTANA PUBLIC
LEARNING GUIDELINES	OUTCOMES	PERFORMANCE	QUESTIONS	& EDUCATION	EDUCATION CONTENT
	(Domain, Domain Element, &	STANDARDS (C)	(# & Area)	KNOWLEDGE BASE	STANDARDS
	Indicators)	(Standard & Page #)		(Content Area & Page #)	
express feelings and solve	experiences, ideas, feelings,	development as well as	selection and/or	indoors and outdoors.	5 – use literary works to
problems.	opinions, needs, questions and	individual interests,	development,		enrich personal experience
	for other varied purposes.	temperaments,	implementation, and	Curriculum – page 30-47:	and to connect to the
	-Progresses in abilities to	languages, cultural	evaluation resulting in a	Curriculum encompasses	broader world of ideas,
	initiate and respond	backgrounds, and	written plan that supports	developmentally	concepts and issues.
	appropriately in conversation	learning styles;	the growth of children's	appropriate practice that	
	and discussions with peers and	(ii) Be inclusive of	social competence,	supports physical,	Reading:
	adults.	children with	including school readiness,	social-emotional, cognitive,	1 – Construct meaning as
	-Uses an increasingly complex	disabilities, consistent	for each identified program	and creative development	the students comprehend,
	and varied spoken vocabulary.	with their	option?	with: a balance of adult and	interpret, and respond to
	-Progresses in clarity of	Individualized Family		child directed activities;	what they read.
	pronunciation and towards	Service Plan (IFSP) or	#14 – Parent	indoor and outdoor	2 – Apply a range of skills
	speaking in sentences of	Individualized	Involvement: How does	experiences; individual,	and strategies to read.
	increasing length and	Education Program	the grantee provide parent	small, and large group	3 – Set goals, monitor and
	grammatical complexity.	(IEP);	involvement opportunities?	activities; blocks of	evaluate their progress in
	-For non-English-speaking	(iii) Provide an		uninterrupted time for	reading.
	children, progresses in speaking	environment of	#17 – Facilities, Materials,	children to engage in self-	4 – Select, read, and
	English.	acceptance that	Equipment, and	chosen activities; and	respond to print and
		supports and respects	Transportation: How does	meaningful and relevant	nonprint material for a
3. Phonological	Domain Element:	gender, culture,	the grantee ensure that	interaction with a variety of	variety of purposes.
Awareness:	Phonological Awareness	language, ethnicity and	facilities, materials,	materials, children, and	5 – Gather, analyze,
Children become aware of	Indicators:	family composition;	equipment, and	adults.	synthesize, and evaluate
the sounds of letters and	-Shows increasing ability to	(iv) Provide a balanced	transportation services,		information from a variety
combinations of letters that	discriminate and identify	daily program of child-	when they are provided, are	Observation and	of sources, and
make up words. They begin	sounds in spoken language.	initiated and adult-	safe, appropriate, and	Assessment – page 48-50:	communicate the students'
to manipulate syllables and	-Shows growing awareness of	directed activities,	conducive to learning and	Observation and	findings in ways
sounds of speech.	beginning and ending sounds of	including individual	reflective of the different	Assessment includes	appropriate for their
	words.	and small group	ages and stages of	understanding the how and	purposes and audiences.
	-Progresses in recognizing	activities.	development of each child,	why of observing children	Speaking and Listening:
	matching sounds and rhymes in		including children with	and the utilization of	1 – Demonstrate knowledge

MONTANA EARLY LEARNING GUIDELINES	HEAD START CHILD OUTCOMES	HEAD START PERFORMANCE	HEAD START PRISM QUESTIONS	MONTANA EARLY CARE & EDUCATION	MONTANA PUBLIC EDUCATION CONTENT
EE/MAING GOIDEEINES	(Domain, Domain Element, &	STANDARDS	(# & Area)	KNOWLEDGE BASE	STANDARDS
	Indicators)	(Standard & Page #)	(55 === 533)	(Content Area & Page #)	2 2
	familiar words, games, songs,	1304.21(a)(2)(i-ii) – pg	disabilities, for the conduct	informal, authentic, and	and understanding of the
	stories and poems.	63-64: (2) Parents must	of all program activities?	formal assessment	communication process.
	-Shows growing ability to hear	be: (i) Invited to		techniques as a tool for	2 – Distinguish among and
	and discriminate separate	become integrally	#18 – Child Outcomes:	curriculum planning, goal	use appropriate types of
	syllables in words.	involved in the	How has the grantee	setting for individuals in	speaking and listening for a
	-Associates sounds with written	development of the	implemented requirements	partnerships with parents,	variety of purposes.
	words, such as awareness that	program's curriculum	related to child outcomes?	and preparation	3 – Apply a range of skills
	different words begin with the	and approach to child		of the learning environment	and strategies to speaking
	same sound.	development and		to enhance growth and	and listening.
		education;		learning.	4 – Identify, analyze and
4. Print Awareness:	Domain Elements: Book	(ii) Provided			evaluate the impacts of
Children acquire an	Knowledge & Appreciation,	opportunities to			effective speaking and
understanding that print	Print Awareness & Concepts,	increase their child			evaluative listening.
carries a message through	Alphabet Knowledge	observation skills and			
symbols and words.	Indicators:	to share assessments			Writing:
Children learn to make the	-Shows growing interest and	with staff that will help			1 – Write clearly and
connection between sounds	involvement in listening to and	plan the learning			effectively.
and letters (the alphabetic	discussing a variety of fiction,	experiences.			2 – Apply a range of skills
principle).	non-fiction, and poetry.				and strategies in the writing
	-Shows growing interest in	1304.21(c)(1)(i-vii) –			process.
	reading-related activities, such	page 77-82:			3 – Evaluate and reflect on
	as asking to have a favorite	(c) Child development			the student's growth as
	book read; choosing to look at	and education approach			writers.
	books; drawing pictures based	for preschoolers.			4 – Write for a variety of
	on stories; asking to take books	(1) Grantee, in			purposes and audiences.
	home; going to the library; and	collaboration with the			5 – Recognize the
	engaging in pretend-reading	parents, must			structures of various forms
	with other children.	implement a			and apply these
	-Demonstrates progress in	curriculum that:			characteristics to the
	abilities to retell and dictate	(i) Supports each			student's own writing.

MONTANA EARLY LEARNING GUIDELINES	HEAD START CHILD OUTCOMES	HEAD START PERFORMANCE	HEAD START PRISM QUESTIONS	MONTANA EARLY CARE & EDUCATION	MONTANA PUBLIC EDUCATION CONTENT
LEARINING GUIDELINES	(Domain, Domain Element, &	STANDARDS	(# & Area)	KNOWLEDGE BASE	STANDARDS
	Indicators)	(Standard & Page #)	(" a rica)	(Content Area & Page #)	STANDARDS
	stories from books and	child's individual		(5.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1	6 – Use the inquiry process,
	experiences; to act out stories in	pattern of development			problem-solving strategies,
	dramatic play; and to predict	and learning;			and resources to synthesize
	what will happen next in a	(ii) Provides for the			and communicate
	story.	development of			information.
	-Progresses in learning how to	cognitive skills by			
	handle and care for books;	encouraging each child			
	knowing to view one page at a	to organize his or her			
	time in sequence from front to	experiences, to			
	back; and understanding that a	understand concepts,			
	book has a title, author and	and to develop age			
	illustrator.	appropriate literacy,			
	-Shows increasing awareness of	numeracy, reasoning,			
	print in classroom, home and	problem solving and			
	community settings.	decision-making skills			
	-Develops growing	which form a			
	understanding of the different	foundation for school			
	functions of forms of print such	readiness and later			
	as signs, letters, newspapers,	school success;			
	lists, messages, and menus.	(iii) Integrates all			
	-Demonstrates increasing	educational aspects of			
	awareness of concepts of print,	the health, nutrition,			
	such as that reading in English	and mental health			
	moves from top to bottom and	services into program			
	from left to right, that speech	activities;			
	can be written down, and that	(iv) Ensures that the			
	print conveys a message.	program environment			
	-Shows progress in recognizing	helps children develop			
	the association between spoken	emotional security and			
	and written words by following	facility in social			

MONTANA EARLY	HEAD START CHILD	HEAD START	HEAD START PRISM	MONTANA EARLY CARE	MONTANA PUBLIC
LEARNING GUIDELINES	OUTCOMES (Domain, Domain Element, &	PERFORMANCE STANDARDS	QUESTIONS (# & Area)	& EDUCATION KNOWLEDGE BASE	EDUCATION CONTENT STANDARDS
	Indicators)	(Standard & Page #)	(# & Alea)	(Content Area & Page #)	STANDARDS
	print as it is read aloud.	relationships;		(content fired at 1 age ")	
	-Recognizes a word as a unit of	(v) Enhances each			
	print, or awareness that letters	child's understanding			
	are grouped to form words, and	of self as an individual			
	that words are separated by	and as a member of a			
	spaces.	group;			
	-Shows progress in associating	(vi) Provides each child			
	the names of letters with their	with opportunities for			
	shapes and sounds.	success to help develop			
	-Increases in ability to notice	feelings of competence,			
	the beginning letters in familiar	self-esteem, and			
	words.	positive attitudes			
	-Identifies at least 10 letters of	toward learning; and			
	the alphabet, especially those in	(vii) Provides			
	their own name.	individual and small			
	-Knows that letters of the	group experiences both			
	alphabet are a special category	indoors and outdoors.			
	of visual graphics that can	1304.21(a)(4)(i-iv) –			
	be individually named.	page 68-70			
		(4) Grantee must			
5. Print Development:	Domain Element: Early	provide for the			
Children acquire the ability	Writing	development of each			
to write through a sequence	Indicators:	child's cognitive and			
of stages, although	-Develops understanding that	language skills by:			
individual children will	writing is a way of	(i) Supporting each			
become writers at different	communicating for a variety of	child's learning, using			
rates. These stages are:	purposes.	various strategies -			
writing using scribble-like	-Begins to represent stories and	experimentation,			
markings; writing using	experiences through pictures,	inquiry, observation,			
individual letter-like marks	dictation, and in play.	play and exploration;			

MONTANA EARLY LEARNING GUIDELINES	HEAD START CHILD OUTCOMES (Domain, Domain Element, &	HEAD START PERFORMANCE STANDARDS	HEAD START PRISM QUESTIONS (# & Area)	MONTANA EARLY CARE & EDUCATION KNOWLEDGE BASE	MONTANA PUBLIC EDUCATION CONTENT STANDARDS
	Indicators)	(Standard & Page #)		(Content Area & Page #)	
or mock letters; writing	-Experiments with a growing	(iii) Promoting			
using recognizable, random	variety of writing tools and	interaction, language			
letter strings; writing using	materials, such as pencils,	use among children and			
semi-phonetic spelling; and	crayons, and computers.	children and adults;			
writing using phonetic	-Progresses from using	(iv) Supporting			
spelling.	scribbles, shapes, or pictures to	emerging literacy and			
	represent ideas, to using letter-	numeracy development			
	like symbols, to copying or	through materials and			
	writing familiar words such as	activities according to			
	their own name.	the developmental level of each child.			
		of each child.			
Mathematics & Numeracy	Domain: Mathematics	EC Development and		Child Growth and	Mathematics
		Health Services:		Development,,	
		Education/EC		Environmental Design,	
		Development 1304.21		Curriculum, Observation and Assessment	
1. Numeracy	Domain Element: Number &	1304.21(a)(1)(i-iv) –	#10 – Individualization:	Child Growth and	Mathematics
Relationships:	Operations	page 60-63:	How does the grantee	Development – page 12-	1 – Engage in the
Children develop the ability	Indicators:	(a) Child development	individualize the program	15:	mathematical processes of
to think and work with	-Demonstrates increasing	and education approach	of child development and	Child Growth and	problem solving and
numbers easily, to	interest and awareness of	for all children:	health services to meet each	Development reflects	reasoning, estimation,
understand their uses, and	numbers and counting as a	(1) In order to help	child's unique	knowledge and	communication,
describe their relationships.	means for solving problems and	children gain the social	characteristics, strengths,	understanding of	connections, and
Children learn the meaning	determining quantity.	competence, skills and	and needs, as determined in	developmental	applications, and using
of numbers in their	-Begins to associate number	confidence necessary to	consultation with the	stages, processes, theories	appropriate technology. 2 – Demonstrate an
everyday experiences (e.g.,	concepts, vocabulary, quantities and written numerals in	be prepared to succeed	family?	and their implications for	
home, early childhood	and written numerals in	in their present		work with young children	understanding of and an

MONTANA EARLY	HEAD START CHILD	HEAD START	HEAD START PRISM	MONTANA EARLY CARE	MONTANA PUBLIC
LEARNING GUIDELINES	OUTCOMES	PERFORMANCE	QUESTIONS	& EDUCATION	EDUCATION CONTENT
	(Domain, Domain Element, &	STANDARDS	(# & Area)	KNOWLEDGE BASE	STANDARDS
	Indicators)	(Standard & Page #)		(Content Area & Page #)	
settings, community and	meaningful ways.	environment and with	#11 – Disabilities	and families.	ability to use umbers and
nature).	-Develops increasing ability to	later responsibilities in	Services: How does the		operations.
	count in sequence to 10 and	school and life,	grantee ensure that	Environmental Design –	3 – Use algebraic concepts,
2. Classification &	beyond.	grantee's approach to	individualized services are	page 16-18:	processes, and language to
Comparison:	-Begins to make use of one-to-	child development and	effectively provided to	Environmental Design	model and solve a variety
Children apply	one correspondence in counting	education must:	children with diagnosed or	includes knowledge of how	of real-world and
mathematical skills through	objects and matching groups of	(i) Be developmentally	suspected disabilities?	to create safe, attractive,	mathematical problems.
counting, sorting, and	objects	and linguistically		inviting, and well-	4 – Demonstrate an
comparing objects.	-Begins to use language to	appropriate,	#12 – Curriculum and	organized learning spaces	understanding of shape and
Children describe their	compare numbers of objects	recognizing that	Assessment: How has the	for young children that	an ability to use geometry.
thinking and observations	with terms such as more, less,	children have	grantee engaged in a	promote physical, social-	5 – Demonstrate an
in everyday situations.	greater than, fewer, equal to	individual rates of	process of curriculum	emotional, cognitive, and	understanding of
	-Develops increased abilities to	development as well as	selection and/or	creative development both	measurable attributes and
	combine, separate and name	individual interests,	development,	indoors and outdoors.	an ability to use
	"how many" concrete objects.	temperaments,	implementation, and		measurement processes.
		languages, cultural	evaluation resulting in a	Curriculum – page 30-47:	6 – Demonstrate an
3. Pattern Recognition &	Domain Element: Patterns &	backgrounds, and	written plan that supports	Curriculum encompasses	understanding of and an
Reproduction:	Measurement	learning styles;	the growth of children's	developmentally	ability to use data analysis,
Children learn to identify	Indicators:	(ii) Be inclusive of	social competence,	appropriate practice that	probability, and statistics.
and describe patterns using	-Enhances abilities to	children with	including school readiness,	supports physical,	7 – Demonstrate an
mathematical language.	recognize, duplicate and extend	disabilities, consistent	for each identified program	social-emotional, cognitive,	understanding of and an
They develop the ability to	simple patterns using a variety	with their	option?	and creative development	ability to use patterns,
reproduce patterns they see	of materials.	Individualized Family		with: a balance of adult and	relations and functions.
and to create new ones.	-Shows increasing abilities to	Service Plan (IFSP) or	#14 – Parent	child directed activities;	
	match, sort, put in a series, and	Individualized	Involvement: How does	indoor and outdoor	
	regroup objects according to	Education Program	the grantee provide parent	experiences; individual,	
	one or two attributes such as	(IEP);	involvement opportunities?	small, and large group	
	shape or size.	(iii) Provide an		activities; blocks of	
	-Begins to make comparisons	environment of	#17 – Facilities, Materials,	uninterrupted time for	
	between several objects based	acceptance that	Equipment, and	children to engage in self-	

MONTANA EARLY LEARNING GUIDELINES	HEAD START CHILD OUTCOMES	HEAD START PERFORMANCE	HEAD START PRISM QUESTIONS	MONTANA EARLY CARE & EDUCATION	MONTANA PUBLIC EDUCATION CONTENT
	(Domain, Domain Element, & Indicators)	STANDARDS (Standard & Page #)	(# & Area)	KNOWLEDGE BASE (Content Area & Page #)	STANDARDS
4. Geometric Shapes & Directional Words: Children build the foundation for recognizing and describing shapes by manipulating, playing with, tracing, and making common shapes using real objects in a variety of activities. Children learn spatial reasoning and directional words as they become aware of their bodies and personal space within their physical environment.	on a single attribute. -Shows progress in using standard and non-standard measures for length and area of objects. Domain Element: Geometry & Spatial Sense Indicators: -Begins to recognize, describe, compare and name common shapes, their parts and attributes. -Progresses in ability to put together and take apart shapes. -Begins to be able to determine whether or not two shapes are the same size and shape. -Shows growth in matching, sorting, putting in a series and regrouping objects according to one or two attributes such as color, shape or size. -Builds an increasing understanding of directionality, order and positions of objects, and words such as up, down, over, under, top, bottom, inside, outside, in front and behind.	supports and respects gender, culture, language, ethnicity and family composition; (iv) Provide a balanced daily program of child-initiated and adult-directed activities, including individual and small group activities. 1304.21(a)(2)(i-ii) – page 63-64: (2) Parents must be: (i) Invited to become integrally involved in the development of the program's curriculum and approach to child development and education; (ii) Provided opportunities to increase their child observation skills and to share assessments with staff that will help plan the learning experiences.	Transportation: How does the grantee ensure that facilities, materials, equipment, and transportation services, when they are provided, are safe, appropriate, and conducive to learning and reflective of the different ages and stages of development of each child, including children with disabilities, for the conduct of all program activities? #18 – Child Outcomes: How has the grantee implemented requirements related to child outcomes?	chosen activities; and meaningful and relevant interaction with a variety of materials, children, and adults. Observation and Assessment – page 48-50: Observation and Assessment includes understanding the how and why of observing children and the utilization of informal, authentic, and formal assessment techniques as a tool for curriculum planning, goal setting for individuals in partnerships with parents, and preparation of the learning environment to enhance growth and learning.	

MONTANA EARLY	HEAD START CHILD	HEAD START	HEAD START PRISM	MONTANA EARLY CARE	MONTANA PUBLIC
LEARNING GUIDELINES	OUTCOMES	PERFORMANCE	QUESTIONS	& EDUCATION	EDUCATION CONTENT
	(Domain, Domain Element, & Indicators)	STANDARDS (Standard & Page #)	(# & Area)	KNOWLEDGE BASE (Content Area & Page #)	STANDARDS
5. Measurement	Domain Element: Patterns &	(Standard & Fage #)		(Content Area & rage #)	
Relationships:	Measurement	1304.21(a)(4)(i-iv) –			
Children begin to use	Indicators: See Mathematics	page 68-70			
measurement instruments	Early Learning Guideline #3	(4) Grantee must			
to explore and discover	Early Learning Guidenne #3	provide for the			
measurement relationships.		development of each			
They apply the		child's cognitive and			
characteristics of length,		language skills by:			
quantity, volume, distance,		(i) Supporting each			
weight, area, and time to		child's learning, using			
real life situations in order		various strategies			
to construct concepts of		including			
measurement.		experimentation,			
		inquiry, observation,			
6. Problem Solving:		play and exploration;			
Children build a foundation		(iii) Promoting			
for solving problems by		interaction and			
formulating questions and		language use among			
possible solutions		children and between			
individually and with others		children and adults; and			
based on their observations		(iv) Supporting			
and experiences.		emerging literacy and			
		numeracy development			
		through materials and			
		activities according to			
		the developmental level			
		of each child.			
		1304.21(c)(1)(i-vii) –			
		page 77-82:			
		page //-04:			

MONTANA EARLY LEARNING GUIDELINES	HEAD START CHILD OUTCOMES (Domain, Domain Element, & Indicators)	HEAD START PERFORMANCE STANDARDS (Standard & Page #)	HEAD START PRISM QUESTIONS (# & Area)	MONTANA EARLY CARE & EDUCATION KNOWLEDGE BASE (Content Area & Page #)	MONTANA PUBLIC EDUCATION CONTENT STANDARDS
	,	(c) Child development		` '	
		and education approach			
		for preschoolers.			
		(1) Grantee, in			
		collaboration with the			
		parents, must			
		implement a			
		curriculum that:			
		(i) Supports each			
		child's individual			
		pattern of development			
		and learning;			
		(ii) Provides for the			
		development of			
		cognitive skills by			
		encouraging each child			
		to organize his or her experiences, to			
		understand concepts,			
		and to develop age			
		and to develop age appropriate literacy,			
		numeracy, reasoning,			
		problem solving and			
		decision-making skills			
		which form a			
		foundation for school			
		readiness and later			
		school success;			
		(iii) Integrates all			
		educational aspects of			

the health, nutrition, and mental health services into program activities; (iv) Ensures that the program environment helps children develop emotional security and facility in social relationships; (v) Enhances each child's understanding of self as an individual and as a member of a group; (vi) Provides each child with opportunities for success to help develop feelings of competence, self-esteem, and positive attitudes toward learning; and (vii) Provides individual and small group experiences both indoors and outdoors.	MONTANA EARLY LEARNING GUIDELINES	HEAD START CHILD OUTCOMES (Domain, Domain Element, & Indicators)	HEAD START PERFORMANCE STANDARDS (Standard & Page #)	HEAD START PRISM QUESTIONS (# & Area)	MONTANA EARLY CARE & EDUCATION KNOWLEDGE BASE (Content Area & Page #)	MONTANA PUBLIC EDUCATION CONTENT STANDARDS
			and mental health services into program activities; (iv) Ensures that the program environment helps children develop emotional security and facility in social relationships; (v) Enhances each child's understanding of self as an individual and as a member of a group; (vi) Provides each child with opportunities for success to help develop feelings of competence, self-esteem, and positive attitudes toward learning; and (vii) Provides individual and small group experiences both			

MONTANA EARLY LEARNING GUIDELINES Physical Development & Health	HEAD START CHILD OUTCOMES (Domain, Domain Element, & Indicators) Domain: Physical Health & Development	HEAD START PERFORMANCE STANDARDS (Standard & Page #) Early Childhood Development and Health Services: Child Health and Developmental Services - 1304.20 & Early Childhood Development -1304.21	HEAD START PRISM QUESTIONS (# & Area)	MONTANA EARLY CARE & EDUCATION KNOWLEDGE BASE (Content Area & Page #) Child Growth and Development,, Environmental Design, Curriculum, Observation and Assessment	MONTANA PUBLIC EDUCATION CONTENT STANDARDS Health Enhancement
1. Personal Health &	Domain Element: Health	1304.20(b)(3) – pg 48:	#9a – Prevention and	Child Growth and	Health Enhancement
Safety Practices:	Status & Practices	(b) Screening for	Early Intervention: How	Development – pg 12-15:	1 11 1 1 1 1
While participating in	Indicators:	Developmental,	does the grantee implement	Child Growth and	1 – Have a basic knowledge
physical activities, young	-Progresses in physical growth,	Sensory, and	a comprehensive system of	Development reflects	and understanding of
children develop an	strength, stamina, and	Behavioral Concerns:	services for preventing	knowledge and	concept that promote
awareness of health and	flexibility.	(3) Grantee must utilize	health problems, and	understanding of	comprehensive health.
safety practices that support	-Participates actively in games,	multiple sources of	intervening promptly when	developmental	2 – Demonstrate
the growth of a healthy	outdoor play and other forms of	information on all	they exist?	stages, processes, theories	competency in a variety of
lifestyle.	exercise that enhance physical	aspects of each child's		and their implications for	movement forms.
	fitness.	development and	#9b – Health Care	work with young children	3 – Apply movement
	-Shows growing independence	behavior, including	Tracking and Follow-up:	and families.	concepts and principles
	in hygiene, nutrition and	input from family	How does the grantee track		while learning and
	personal care when eating,	members, teachers, and	the provision of all child	Environmental Design –	developing motor skills.
	dressing, washing hands,	other relevant staff who	health and developmental	page 16-18:	4 – Achieve and maintain a
	brushing teeth and toileting.	are familiar with the	services and ensure that	Environmental Design	challenging level of health-
	-Builds awareness and ability to	child's typical	follow-up services are	includes knowledge of how	related physical fitness.
	follow basic health and safety	behavior.	received in a timely	to create safe, attractive,	5 – Demonstrate the ability
	rules such as fire safety, traffic		manner?	inviting, and well-	to use critical thinking and
	and pedestrian safety, and	1304.20(c)(1) – pg 49:	#10 – Individualization:	organized learning spaces	decision making to enhance
	responding appropriately to	(c) Extended Follow-up	How does the grantee	for young children that	health
	potentially harmful objects,	and Treatment:	individualize the program	promote physical, social-	6 – Demonstrate

MONTANA EARLY	HEAD START CHILD	HEAD START	HEAD START PRISM	MONTANA EARLY CARE	MONTANA PUBLIC
LEARNING GUIDELINES	OUTCOMES	PERFORMANCE	QUESTIONS	& EDUCATION	EDUCATION CONTENT
	(Domain, Domain Element, &	STANDARDS	(# & Area)	KNOWLEDGE BASE	STANDARDS
	Indicators)	(Standard & Page #)		(Content Area & Page #)	
	substances and activities.	(1) Grantee must	of child development and	emotional, cognitive, and	interpersonal
		establish a system of	health services to meet each	creative development both	communication skills to
2. Gross/Fine Motor &	Domain Elements: Fine	ongoing	child's unique	indoors and outdoors.	enhance health.
Sensory Development:	Motor Skills, Gross Motor	communication with	characteristics, strengths,		7 – Demonstrate health-
Young children observe,	Skills	the parents of children	and needs, as determined in	Curriculum – page 30-47:	enhancing behaviors.
practice, demonstrate, and	Indicators:	with identified health	consultation with the	Curriculum encompasses	
compare fundamental	-Develops growing strength,	needs to facilitate the	family?	developmentally	
movements while learning	dexterity and control needed to	implementation of the		appropriate practice that	
to control their bodies in	use tools such as scissors, paper	follow-up plan.	#11 – Disabilities	supports physical,	
relation to other individuals	punch, stapler, and hammer.		Services: How does the	social-emotional, cognitive,	
and independent objects in	-Grows in hand-eye	1304.20(e)(1) – pg 52:	grantee ensure that	and creative development	
their environment.	coordination in building with	(e) Involving Parents:	individualized services are	with: a balance of adult and	
	blocks, putting together	(1) Consult with	effectively provided to	child directed activities;	
	puzzles, reproducing shapes	parents immediately	children with diagnosed or	indoor and outdoor	
	and patterns, stringing beads	when child health or	suspected disabilities?	experiences; individual,	
	and using scissors.	developmental		small, and large group	
	-Progresses in abilities to use	problems are suspected	#12 – Curriculum and	activities; blocks of	
	writing, drawing and art tools	or identified;	Assessment: How has the	uninterrupted time for	
	including pencils, markers,		grantee engaged in a	children to engage in self-	
	chalk, paintbrushes, and various	1304.20(f)(1) - pg 54:	process of curriculum	chosen activities; and	
	types of technology.	(f) Individualization of	selection and/or	meaningful and relevant	
	-Shows increasing levels of	the Program:	development,	interaction with a variety of	
	proficiency, control and balance	(1) Grantee must use	implementation, and	materials, children, and	
	in walking, climbing, running,	the information from	evaluation resulting in a	adults.	
	jumping, hopping, skipping,	the screenings for	written plan that supports		
	marching and galloping.	developmental,	the growth of children's	Observation and	
	-Demonstrates increasing	sensory, and behavioral	social competence,	Assessment – page 48-50:	
	abilities to coordinate	concerns, the ongoing	including school readiness,	Observation and	
	movements in throwing,	observations, medical	for each identified program	Assessment includes	
	catching, kicking, bouncing	and dental evaluations	option?	understanding the how and	

MONTANA EARLY LEARNING GUIDELINES	HEAD START CHILD OUTCOMES (Domain, Domain Element, &	HEAD START PERFORMANCE STANDARDS	HEAD START PRISM QUESTIONS (# & Area)	MONTANA EARLY CARE & EDUCATION KNOWLEDGE BASE	MONTANA PUBLIC EDUCATION CONTENT STANDARDS
	Indicators)	(Standard & Page #)	(" & Titea)	(Content Area & Page #)	
	balls, and using the slide and	and treatments, and		why of observing children	
	swing.	insights from the	#13 – Family Partnership	and the utilization of	
	_	child's parents to help	Building: How does the	informal, authentic, and	
3. Movement Concepts:		staff and parents	grantee engage in a process	formal assessment	
Young children begin to		determine how the	of collaborative partnership	techniques as a tool for	
develop movement and		program can best	building with parents?	curriculum planning, goal	
sensory vocabulary and use		respond to each child's		setting for individuals in	
it accurately. Young		individual	#14 – Parent	partnerships with parents,	
children apply movement		characteristics,	Involvement: How does	and preparation	
concepts to motor skills by		strengths and needs.	the grantee provide parent	of the learning environment	
responding appropriately			involvement opportunities?	to enhance growth and	
to:		1304.21(a)(1)(i-iv) –		learning.	
-direction (front/back,		page 60-63:	#17 – Facilities, Materials,		
side/side, left/right),		(a) Child development	Equipment, and		
-personal and general		and education approach	Transportation: How does		
space,		for all children:	the grantee ensure that		
-effort and force		(1) In order to help	facilities, materials,		
(hard/soft),		children gain the social	equipment, and		
-speed and flow (fast/slow)		competence, skills and	transportation services,		
and		confidence necessary to	when they are provided, are		
-sensory experiences		be prepared to succeed	safe, appropriate, and		
(rough/smooth, hot/cold).		in their present	conducive to learning and		
		environment and with	reflective of the different		
4. Self-Expression in		later responsibilities in	ages and stages of		
Motor & Sensory		school and life,	development of each child,		
Experiences:		grantee's approach to	including children with		
Young children seek out		child development and	disabilities, for the conduct		
and participate in		education must:	of all program activities?		
challenging physical		(i) Be developmentally			
activities, including sensory		and linguistically	#18 – Child Outcomes:		

OUTCOMES	HEAD START PERFORMANCE	HEAD START PRISM QUESTIONS	MONTANA EARLY CARE & EDUCATION	MONTANA PUBLIC EDUCATION CONTENT
		(# & Area)		STANDARDS
mucators)		How has the grantee	(Content Tirea & Fage II)	
		•		
	children have	related to child outcomes?		
	individual rates of			
	development as well as			
	individual interests,			
	temperaments,			
	languages, cultural			
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	(Domain, Domain Element, & Indicators)	(Domain, Domain Element, & STANDARDS (Standard & Page #) appropriate, recognizing that children have individual rates of development as well as individual interests, temperaments,	STANDARDS (Standard & Page #) Appropriate, recognizing that children have individual rates of development as well as individual interests, temperaments, languages, cultural backgrounds, and learning styles; (ii) Be inclusive of children with disabilities, consistent with their Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) or Individualized Education Program (IEP); (iii) Provide an environment of acceptance that supports and respects gender, culture, language, ethnicity and family composition; (iv) Provide a balanced daily program of childinitiated and adult-	(Domain, Domain Element, & STANDARDS (Standard & Page #) appropriate, recognizing that children have individual rates of development as well as individual interests, temperaments, languages, cultural backgrounds, and learning styles; (ii) Be inclusive of children with disabilities, consistent with their Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) or Individualized Education Program (IEP); (iii) Provide an environment of acceptance that supports and respects gender, culture, language, ethnicity and family composition; (iv) Provide a balanced daily program of childininitated and adult-

MONTANA EARLY LEARNING GUIDELINES	HEAD START CHILD OUTCOMES (Domain, Domain Element, & Indicators)	HEAD START PERFORMANCE STANDARDS (Standard & Page #)	HEAD START PRISM QUESTIONS (# & Area)	MONTANA EARLY CARE & EDUCATION KNOWLEDGE BASE (Content Area & Page #)	MONTANA PUBLIC EDUCATION CONTENT STANDARDS
			(# & Area)		STANDARDS
		page 71-73: (5) In center-based settings, grantee must promote each child's physical development by: (i) Providing sufficient time, indoor and outdoor space,			

MONTANA EARLY LEARNING GUIDELINES	HEAD START CHILD OUTCOMES (Domain, Domain Element, & Indicators)	HEAD START PERFORMANCE STANDARDS (Standard & Page #)	HEAD START PRISM QUESTIONS (# & Area)	MONTANA EARLY CARE & EDUCATION KNOWLEDGE BASE (Content Area & Page #)	MONTANA PUBLIC EDUCATION CONTENT STANDARDS
	Indicators)	equipment, materials and adult guidance for active play and movement that support the development of gross motor skills; (ii) Providing appropriate time, space, equipment, materials and adult guidance for the development of fine motor skills according to each child's developmental level; and (iii) Provide an appropriate environment and adult guidance for inclusion of children w/special needs. 1304.21(a)(6) – pg 73: (6) In home-based settings, grantee must encourage parents to appreciate the importance of physical development, provide opportunities for children's outdoor and		(Content Area & Page #)	
		indoor active play, and			

Ź	(Standard & Page #) guide children in the	(Content Area & Page #)	
	0		
	safe use of equipment		
	and materials.		
	1304.21(c)(1)(i-vii) –		
	page 77-82:		
	(c) Child development		
	and education approach		
	for preschoolers.		
	(1) Grantee, with the		
	parents, must		
	implement a		
	curriculum that:		
	(i) Supports each		
	child's individual		
	pattern of development		
	and learning;		
	(ii) Provides for the		
	development of		
	cognitive skills by		
	encouraging each child		
	to organize his or her		
	experiences, to		
	understand concepts,		
	and to develop age		
	appropriate literacy,		
	numeracy, reasoning, problem solving and		
	decision-making skills		
	which form a		
	foundation for school		

MONTANA EARLY LEARNING GUIDELINES	HEAD START CHILD OUTCOMES (Domain, Domain Element, & Indicators)	HEAD START PERFORMANCE STANDARDS (Standard & Page #)	HEAD START PRISM QUESTIONS (# & Area)	MONTANA EARLY CARE & EDUCATION KNOWLEDGE BASE (Content Area & Page #)	MONTANA PUBLIC EDUCATION CONTENT STANDARDS
	21101000023)	readiness and later		(Comment and Comment and Comme	
		school success;			
		(iii) Integrates all			
		educational aspects of			
		the health, nutrition,			
		and mental health			
		services into program			
		activities;			
		(iv) Ensures that the			
		program environment			
		helps children develop			
		emotional security and			
		facility in social			
		relationships;			
		(v) Enhances each			
		child's understanding			
		of self as an individual			
		and as a member of a			
		group; (vi) Provides			
		each child with			
		opportunities for			
		success to help develop			
		feelings of competence,			
		self-esteem, and			
		positive attitudes			
		toward learning; and			
		(vii) Provides individual and small			
		group experiences both indoors and outdoors.			
		muoors and outdoors.			

MONTANA EARLY LEARNING GUIDELINES	HEAD START CHILD OUTCOMES (Domain, Domain Element, & Indicators)	HEAD START PERFORMANCE STANDARDS (Standard & Page #)	HEAD START PRISM QUESTIONS (# & Area)	MONTANA EARLY CARE & EDUCATION KNOWLEDGE BASE (Content Area & Page #)	MONTANA PUBLIC EDUCATION CONTENT STANDARDS
Science	Domain: Science	Early Childhood Development and Health Services: Education and Early Childhood Development -1304.21		Child Growth and Development,, Environmental Design, Curriculum, Observation and Assessment	Science
1. Formulation of	Domain Element: Scientific	1304.21(a)(1)(i-iv) –	#10 – Individualization:	Child Growth and	Science
Questions:	Skills & Methods	page 60-63:	How does the grantee	Development – page 12-	1 – Design, conduct,
Children will learn to ask	Indicators:	(a) Child development	individualize the program	15:	evaluate and communicate
questions about the world	-Begins to use senses and a	and education approach	of child development and	Child Growth and	scientific investigations.
around them, the first step	variety of tools and simple	for all children:	health services to meet each	Development reflects	2 – Demonstrate knowledge
in the scientific method,	measuring devices to gather	(1) In order to help	child's unique	knowledge and	of properties, forms,
based on observations,	information, investigate	children gain the social	characteristics, strengths,	understanding of	changes and interactions of
experiences, and interests.	materials and observe processes	competence, skills and	and needs, as determined in	developmental	physical and chemical
	and relationships.	confidence necessary to	consultation with the	stages, processes, theories	systems.
2. Prediction:	-Develops increased ability to	be prepared to succeed	family?	and their implications for	3 – Demonstrate knowledge
Children will learn to	observe and discuss common	in their present		work with young children	of characteristics, structures
predict answers and form	properties, differences and	environment and with	#11 – Disabilities	and families.	and function of living
hypotheses, the second step	comparisons among objects and	later responsibilities in	Services: How does the		things, the process and
in the scientific method.	materials.	school and life,	grantee ensure that	Environmental Design –	diversity of life, and how
	-Begins to participate in simple	grantee's approach to	individualized services are	page 16-18:	living organisms interact
3. Experimentation:	investigations to test	child development and	effectively provided to	Environmental Design	with each other and their
Children will learn to	observations, discuss and draw	education must:	children with diagnosed or	includes knowledge of how	environment.
conduct experiments in	conclusions and form	(i) Be developmentally	suspected disabilities?	to create safe, attractive,	4 – Demonstrate knowledge
order to test their	generalizations.	and linguistically		inviting, and well-	of the composition,
predictions, the third step in	-Develops growing abilities to	appropriate,	#12 – Curriculum and	organized learning spaces	structures, processes and
the scientific method.	collect, describe and record	recognizing that	Assessment: How has the	for young children that	interaction of Earth's
	information through a variety of	children have	grantee engaged in a	promote physical, social-	systems on other object in

MONTANA EARLY	HEAD START CHILD	HEAD START	HEAD START PRISM	MONTANA EARLY CARE	MONTANA PUBLIC
LEARNING GUIDELINES	OUTCOMES	PERFORMANCE	QUESTIONS	& EDUCATION	EDUCATION CONTENT
	(Domain, Domain Element, &	STANDARDS	(# & Area)	KNOWLEDGE BASE	STANDARDS
	Indicators)	(Standard & Page #)		(Content Area & Page #)	
4. Observation &	means, including discussion,	individual rates of	process of curriculum	emotional, cognitive, and	space.
Recording:	drawings, maps and charts.	development as well as	selection and/or	creative development both	5 – Understand how
Children will learn to	-Begins to describe and discuss	individual interests,	development,	indoors and outdoors.	scientific knowledge and
observe and record	predictions, explanations and	temperaments,	implementation, and		technological developments
findings, the fourth step in	generalizations based on past	languages, cultural	evaluation resulting in a	Curriculum – page 30-47:	impact society.
the scientific method.	experiences.	backgrounds, and	written plan that supports	Curriculum encompasses	6 – Understand historical
		learning styles;	the growth of children's	developmentally	developments in science
5. Formation of	Domain Element: Scientific	(ii) Be inclusive of	social competence,	appropriate practice that	and technology.
Conclusions:	Knowledge	children with	including school readiness,	supports physical,	
Children will learn to form	Indicators:	disabilities, consistent	for each identified program	social-emotional, cognitive,	
conclusions, the fifth step	-Expands knowledge of and	with their	option?	and creative development	
in the scientific method.	abilities to observe, describe	Individualized Family		with: a balance of adult and	
	and discuss the natural world,	Service Plan (IFSP) or		child directed activities;	
6. Communication of	materials, living things and	Individualized	#14 – Parent	indoor and outdoor	
Results:	natural processes.	Education Program	Involvement: How does	experiences; individual,	
Children will learn to	-Expands knowledge of and	(IEP);	the grantee provide parent	small, and large group	
communicate final results,	respect for their body and the	(iii) Provide an	involvement opportunities?	activities; blocks of	
the sixth step in the	environment.	environment of		uninterrupted time for	
scientific method.	-Develops growing awareness	acceptance that	#15 – Community	children to engage in self-	
	of ideas and language related to	supports and respects	Partnerships: How does	chosen activities; and	
	attributes of time and	gender, culture,	the grantee take an active	meaningful and relevant	
	temperature.	language, ethnicity and	role in community planning	interaction with a variety of	
	-Shows increased awareness	family composition;	and advocacy to improve	materials, children, and	
	and beginning understanding of	(iv) Provide a balanced	the delivery of services to	adults.	
	changes in materials and cause-	daily program of child-	children and families?		
	effect relationships.	initiated and adult-		Observation and	
		directed activities,	#17 – Facilities, Materials,	Assessment – page 48-50:	
		including individual	Equipment, and	Observation and	
		and small group	Transportation: How does	Assessment includes	
		activities.	the grantee ensure that	understanding the how and	

MONTANA EARLY LEARNING GUIDELINES	HEAD START CHILD OUTCOMES (Domain, Domain Element, & Indicators)	HEAD START PERFORMANCE STANDARDS (Standard & Page #)	HEAD START PRISM QUESTIONS (# & Area)	MONTANA EARLY CARE & EDUCATION KNOWLEDGE BASE (Content Area & Page #)	MONTANA PUBLIC EDUCATION CONTENT STANDARDS
		1304.21(a)(2)(i-ii) – pg 63-64: (2) Parents must be: (i) Invited to become integrally involved in the development of the program's curriculum and approach to child development and education; (ii) Provided opportunities to increase their child observation skills and to share assessments with staff that will help plan the learning experiences. 1304.21(a)(4)(i-iv) – pg 68-70 (4) Grantee must provide for the development of each child's cognitive and language skills by: (i) Supporting each child's learning, using various strategies including experimentation,	facilities, materials, equipment, and transportation services, when they are provided, are safe, appropriate, and conducive to learning and reflective of the different ages and stages of development of each child, including children with disabilities, for the conduct of all program activities? #18 – Child Outcomes: How has the grantee implemented requirements related to child outcomes?	why of observing children and the utilization of informal, authentic, and formal assessment techniques as a tool for curriculum planning, goal setting for individuals in partnerships with parents, and preparation of the learning environment to enhance growth and learning.	

MONTANA EARLY LEARNING GUIDELINES	HEAD START CHILD OUTCOMES	HEAD START PERFORMANCE	HEAD START PRISM QUESTIONS	MONTANA EARLY CARE & EDUCATION	MONTANA PUBLIC EDUCATION CONTENT
	(Domain, Domain Element, &	STANDARDS	(# & Area)	KNOWLEDGE BASE	STANDARDS
	Indicators)	(Standard & Page #)		(Content Area & Page #)	
		inquiry, observation,			
		play and exploration;			
		(iii) Promoting			
		interaction and			
		language use among			
		children and between			
		children and adults; and			
		(iv) Supporting			
		emerging literacy and			
		numeracy development			
		through materials and			
		activities according to			
		the developmental level			
		of each child.			
		1304.21(c)(1)(i-vii) –			
		pg 77-82: (c) Child			
		development and			
		education approach for			
		preschoolers.			
		(1) Grantee, in			
		collaboration with the			
		parents, must			
		implement a			
		curriculum that:			
		(i) Supports each			
		child's individual			
		pattern of development			
		and learning;			
		(ii) Provides for the			
		development of			

MONTANA EARLY LEARNING GUIDELINES	HEAD START CHILD OUTCOMES (Domain, Domain Element, & Indicators)	HEAD START PERFORMANCE STANDARDS (Standard & Page #)	HEAD START PRISM QUESTIONS (# & Area)	MONTANA EARLY CARE & EDUCATION KNOWLEDGE BASE (Content Area & Page #)	MONTANA PUBLIC EDUCATION CONTENT STANDARDS
		cognitive skills by		-	
		encouraging each child to organize his or her			
		experiences, to			
		understand concepts,			
		and to develop age			
		and to develop age appropriate literacy,			
		numeracy, reasoning,			
		problem solving and			
		decision-making skills			
		which form a			
		foundation for school			
		readiness and later			
		school success;			
		(iii) Integrates all			
		educational aspects of			
		the health, nutrition,			
		and mental health			
		services into program			
		activities; (iv) Ensures			
		that the program			
		environment helps			
		children develop			
		emotional security and			
		facility in social			
		relationships; (v) Enhances each			
		child's understanding			
		of self as an individual			
		and as a member of a			

MONTANA EARLY LEARNING GUIDELINES	HEAD START CHILD OUTCOMES (Domain, Domain Element, & Indicators)	HEAD START PERFORMANCE STANDARDS (Standard & Page #)	HEAD START PRISM QUESTIONS (# & Area)	MONTANA EARLY CARE & EDUCATION KNOWLEDGE BASE (Content Area & Page #)	MONTANA PUBLIC EDUCATION CONTENT STANDARDS
		group; (vi) Provides each child with opportunities for success to help develop feelings of competence, self-esteem, positive attitudes toward learning; and (vii) Provides individual and small group experiences both indoors and outdoors.			
Social-Emotional Development	Domain: Emotional Development	Early Childhood Development and Health Services: Education and Early Childhood Development 1304.21		Child Growth and Development, Environmental Design, Child Guidance, Curriculum	World Language
1. Sense of Self: Children begin to identify who they are as a person (such as likes, dislikes, interests, strengths) and develop competence and confidence in their own unique abilities. They grow	Domain Element: Self Concept Indicators: -Begins to develop and express awareness of self in terms of specific abilities, characteristics and preferencesDevelops growing capacity for	1304.21(a)(3)(i)(A-E) – pg 65-67 (3) Grantee must support social and emotional development by: (i) Encouraging development which enhances each child's	#10 – Individualization: How does the grantee individualize the program of child development and health services to meet each child's unique characteristics, strengths, and needs, as determined in	Child Development – pg 12-15: Child Growth and Development reflects knowledge and understanding of developmental stages, processes, theories and their implications for work	World Language 1 – Engage in conversation, provide and obtain information, express feeling and emotions, and exchange opinions. 2 – Understand and interpret spoken and/or

MONTANA EARLY LEARNING GUIDELINES	HEAD START CHILD OUTCOMES (Domain, Domain Element, &	HEAD START PERFORMANCE STANDARDS	HEAD START PRISM QUESTIONS (# & Area)	MONTANA EARLY CARE & EDUCATION KNOWLEDGE BASE	MONTANA PUBLIC EDUCATION CONTENT STANDARDS
	Indicators)	(Standard & Page #)	, ,	(Content Area & Page #)	
into themselves,	independence in a range of	strengths by:	consultation with the	with young children and	written language on a
differentiating themselves	activities, routines, and tasks.	(A) Building trust;	family?	families.	variety of topics.
from parents and others,	-Demonstrates growing	(B) Fostering		Environmental Design –	3 – Convey information,
developing and beginning	confidence in a range of	independence;	#11 – Disabilities	page 16-18:	concepts, and ideas to
to recognize their areas of	abilities and expresses pride in	(C) Encouraging self-	Services: How does the	Environmental Design	listeners and/or readers for
strength and skill, and	accomplishments.	control by setting clear,	grantee ensure that	includes knowledge of how	a variety of purposes.
applying their emerging		consistent limits, and	individualized services are	to create safe, attractive,	4 – Demonstrate an
esteem alone and in groups.		having realistic	effectively provided to	inviting, and well-	understanding of the
		expectations;	children with diagnosed or	organized learning spaces	relationships between the
2. Self-Regulation:	Domain Element: Self	(D) Encouraging	suspected disabilities?	for young children that	perspectives, practices, and
Children learn to identify	Control	respect for the feelings		promote physical, social-	products/contributions of
and express their feelings in		and rights of others;	#12 – Curriculum and	emotional, cognitive, and	cultures studied, and use
non-hurtful ways, recognize	1 0 1	and	Assessment: How has the	creative development both	the knowledge to interact
the impact their behavior	feelings, needs and opinions in	(E) Supporting and	grantee engaged in a	indoors and outdoors.	effectively in cultural
has on others, and practice	difficult situations and conflicts	respecting the home	process of curriculum	Child Guidance pg 19-22	contexts.
self-control.	without harming themselves,	language, culture, and	selection and/or	Child Guidance includes	5 – Reinforce and increase
	others, or property.	family composition of	development,	the ability to identify	his/her knowledge of other
	-Develops growing	each child in ways that	implementation, and	developmentally	disciplines through world
	understanding of how their	support the child's	evaluation resulting in a	appropriate behavior and	languages.
	actions affect others and begins	health and well-being.	written plan that supports	employ a variety of positive	6 – Acquire information
	to accept the consequences of	120101()(2)(1)	the growth of children's	guidance strategies that	and perspectives through
	their actions.	1304.21(a)(3)(ii) pg	social competence,	promote self-regulation,	authentic materials in world
	-Demonstrates increasing	68 (ii) Planning for	including school readiness,	respect for	languages and within
	capacity to follow rules and	routines and transitions	for each identified program	others, and meeting the	cultures.
	routines and use materials	so that they occur in a	option?	needs of the group.	7 – Recognize that different
	purposefully, safely, and	timely, predictable and	//12 E 1 B 4 1	Curriculum – page 30-47:	languages use different
	respectfully.	unrushed manner	#13 – Family Partnership	Curriculum encompasses	patterns and can apply this
2 4 0 4 6 6 4 6	D El	according to each	Building: How does the	developmentally	knowledge to his/her own
3. A Caring Community:	Domain Element:	child's needs.	grantee engage in a process	appropriate practice that	language.
Children learn to feel	Cooperation		of collaborative partnership		8 – Demonstrate

MONTANA EARLY LEARNING GUIDELINES	HEAD START CHILD OUTCOMES	HEAD START PERFORMANCE	HEAD START PRISM QUESTIONS	MONTANA EARLY CARE & EDUCATION	MONTANA PUBLIC EDUCATION CONTENT
	(Domain, Domain Element, &	STANDARDS	(# & Area)	KNOWLEDGE BASE	STANDARDS
	Indicators)	(Standard & Page #)		(Content Area & Page #)	
secure as they develop	Indicators:		building with parents?	supports physical,	understanding of the
relationships of trust with	-Increases abilities to sustain			social-emotional, cognitive,	concept of culture through
adults and other children in	interactions with peers by		#14 – Parent	and creative development	comparisons of the culture
their expanding world	helping, sharing and discussion.		Involvement: How does	with: a balance of adult and	studied and his/her own.
beyond the family. They	-Show increasing abilities to		the grantee provide parent	child directed activities;	9 – Apply language skills
begin to recognize social	use compromise and discussion		involvement opportunities?	indoor and outdoor	and cultural knowledge in
cues and become sensitive	in working, playing and			experiences; individual,	daily life.
to others' feelings.	resolving conflicts with peers.		#17 – Facilities, Materials,	small, and large group	
	-Develops increasing abilities		Equipment, and	activities; blocks of	
	to give and take in interactions;		Transportation: How does	uninterrupted time for	
	to take turns in games or using		the grantee ensure that	children to engage in self-	
	materials, and to interact		facilities, materials,	chosen activities; and	
	without being overly		equipment, and	meaningful/relevant	
	submissive or directive.		transportation services,	interaction with a variety of	
			when they are provided, are	materials, children, adults	
4. A Pro-Social	Domain Element: Social		safe, appropriate, and	Observation/Assessment –	
Environment:	Relationships		conducive to learning and	page 48-50:	
Children follow routines	Indicators:		reflective of the different	Observation and	
with increasing	-Demonstrates increasing		ages and stages of	Assessment includes	
independence and handle	comfort in talking with and		development of each child,	understanding the how and	
variations without	accepting guidance and		including children with	why of observing children	
discomfort. They make	directions from a range of		disabilities, for the conduct	and the utilization of	
their preferences known in	familiar adults.		of all program activities?	informal, authentic, and	
increasingly mature ways	-Shows progress in developing			formal assessment	
and respond to adult	friendships with peers.		#18 – Child Outcomes:	techniques as a tool for	
guidance appropriately.	-Progresses in responding		How has the grantee	curriculum planning, goal	
Children begin to make	sympathetically to peers who		implemented requirements	setting for individuals in	
friends and build	are in need, upset, hurt, or		related to child outcomes?	partnerships with parents,	
relationships with both	angry; and in expressing			and preparation	
peers and adults.	empathy or caring for others.			of the learning environment	

MONTANA EARLY LEARNING GUIDELINES	HEAD START CHILD OUTCOMES (Domain, Domain Element, & Indicators)	HEAD START PERFORMANCE STANDARDS (Standard & Page #)	HEAD START PRISM QUESTIONS (# & Area)	MONTANA EARLY CARE & EDUCATION KNOWLEDGE BASE (Content Area & Page #) to enhance growth and	MONTANA PUBLIC EDUCATION CONTENT STANDARDS
				learning.	
Social Studies	Domain Element: Emotional Development	Early Childhood Development and Health Services: Education and Early Childhood Development 1304.21		Child Growth and Development,, Environmental Design, Curriculum, Observation and Assessment	Social Studies
1. Awareness of Time: Young children begin to understand the concept of time, including past, present, and future. They are able to recognize recurring experiences that are part of the daily routine. 2. Roles, Rights, & Responsibilities: Young children begin to follow rules and set personal boundaries for their behavior, as well as understand why rules are created. When presented with a set of alternatives, children are able to make choices for their own lives.		1304.21(a)(1)(i-iv) – pg 60-63: (a) Child development and education approach for all children: (1) In order to help children gain the social competence, skills and confidence necessary to be prepared to succeed in their present environment and with later responsibilities in school and life, grantee's approach to child development and education must: (i) Be developmentally and linguistically	#10 – Individualization: How does the grantee individualize the program of child development and health services to meet each child's unique characteristics, strengths, and needs, as determined in consultation with the family? #11 – Disabilities Services: How does the grantee ensure that individualized services are effectively provided to children with diagnosed or suspected disabilities?	Child Growth and Development – page 12- 15: Child Growth and Development reflects knowledge and understanding of developmental stages, processes, theories and their implications for work with young children and families. Environmental Design – page 16-18: Environmental Design includes knowledge of how to create safe, attractive, inviting, and well-	Social Studies 1 – Access, synthesize, and evaluate information to communicate and apply social studies knowledge to real-world situations. 2 – Analyze how people create and change structures of power, authority and governance to understand the operation of government and to demonstrate civic responsibility. 3 – Apply geographic knowledge and skills (e.g., location, place, human/environment interactions, movement,

MONTANA EARLY	HEAD START CHILD	HEAD START	HEAD START PRISM	MONTANA EARLY CARE	MONTANA PUBLIC
LEARNING GUIDELINES	OUTCOMES	PERFORMANCE	QUESTIONS	& EDUCATION	EDUCATION CONTENT
	(Domain, Domain Element, &	STANDARDS	(# & Area)	KNOWLEDGE BASE	STANDARDS
	Indicators)	(Standard & Page #)		(Content Area & Page #)	
		appropriate,	#12 – Curriculum and	organized learning spaces	and regions).
3. Places, Regions, &		recognizing that	Assessment: How has the	for young children that	4 – Demonstrate an
Spatial Awareness:		children have	grantee engaged in a	promote physical, social-	understanding of the effects
Through exploration, young		individual rates of	process of curriculum	emotional, cognitive, and	of time, continuity, and
children learn that every		development as well as	selection and/or	creative development both	change on historical
place has its own unique		individual interests,	development,	indoors and outdoors.	perspectives and
characteristics. As they		temperaments,	implementation, and		relationships.
become aware of their		languages, cultural	evaluation resulting in a	Curriculum – page 30-47:	5 – Make informed
bodies in space, they		backgrounds, and	written plan that supports	Curriculum encompasses	decisions based on an
develop an understanding		learning styles;	the growth of children's	developmentally	understanding of the
of how they are affected by,		(ii) Be inclusive of	social competence,	appropriate practice that	economic principles of
and the effect they have		children w/disabilities,	including school readiness,	supports physical,	production, distribution,
upon, the world around		consistent with their	for each identified program	social-emotional, cognitive,	exchange, and
them.		Individualized Family	option?	and creative development	consumption.
		Service Plan (IFSP) or		with: a balance of adult and	6 – Demonstrate an
4. The Physical World:		Individualized	#14 – Parent	child directed activities;	understanding of the impact
As young children explore		Education Program	Involvement: How does	indoor and outdoor	of human interaction and
the environment, they		(IEP); (iii) Provide an	the grantee provide parent	experiences; individual,	cultural diversity on
become aware of how		environment of	involvement opportunities?	small, and large group	societies.
people and the earth		acceptance that		activities; blocks of	
interact. By 4 and 5 years		supports and respects	#17 – Facilities, Materials,	uninterrupted time for	
of age, children begin to		gender, culture,	Equipment, and	children to engage in self-	
understand how people use		language, ethnicity and	Transportation: How does	chosen activities; and	
natural resources and		family composition;	the grantee ensure that	meaningful and relevant	
change the earth for their		(iv) Provide a balanced	facilities, materials,	interaction with a variety of	
own benefit. They develop		daily program of child-	equipment, and	materials, children, and	
an awareness of how to		initiated and adult-	transportation services,	adults.	
care for their physical		directed activities,	when they are provided, are		
environment and why it is		including individual	safe, appropriate, and	Observation and	
important.		and small group	conducive to learning and	Assessment – page 48-50:	

MONTANA EARLY LEARNING GUIDELINES	HEAD START CHILD OUTCOMES (Domain, Domain Element, & Indicators)	HEAD START PERFORMANCE STANDARDS (Standard & Page #)	HEAD START PRISM QUESTIONS (# & Area)	MONTANA EARLY CARE & EDUCATION KNOWLEDGE BASE (Content Area & Page #)	MONTANA PUBLIC EDUCATION CONTENT STANDARDS
	indicators)	activities.	reflective of the different	Observation and	
5. Recognition of		1304.21(a)(2)(i-ii) – pg	ages and stages of	Assessment includes	
Diversity:	Domain Element: Knowledge	63-64: (2) Parents must	development of each child,	understanding the how and	
Young children begin to	of Families & Communities	be: (i) Invited to	including children with	why of observing children	
notice and react to	Indicators:	become integrally	disabilities, for the conduct	and the utilization of	
similarities and differences	-Develops ability to identify	involved in the	of all program activities?	informal, authentic, and	
	personal characteristics	development of the	of an program activities?	formal assessment	
(such as appearance, gender, and behavior)	including gender, and family	program's curriculum	#18 – Child Outcomes:	techniques as a tool for	
between themselves and	composition.	and approach to child	How has the grantee	curriculum planning, goal	
others. With appropriate	-Progresses in understanding	development and	implemented requirements	setting for individuals in	
guidance, they are able to	similarities and respecting	education;	related to child outcomes?	partnerships with parents,	
experience empathy for	differences among people, such	(ii) Provided	related to clind outcomes:	and preparation	
other people.	as genders, race, special needs,	opportunities to		of the learning environment	
other people.	culture, language, and family	increase their child		to enhance growth and	
6. Community	structures.	observation skills and		learning.	
Awareness:	-Develops growing awareness	to share assessments		learning.	
Young children began to	of jobs and what is required to	with staff that will help			
understand the basic	perform them.	plan the learning			
principles of community	-Begins to express and	experiences.			
function, including work	understand concepts and	1304.21(a)(4)(i-iv) –			
roles and the importance of	language of geography in the	page 68-70			
money for purchasing.	contexts of their classroom,	(4) Grantee must			
They see how their family	home and community.	provide for the			
interacts with the	nome and community.	development of each			
community to receive		child's cognitive and			
needed goods and services.		language skills by:			
		(i) Supporting each			
		child's learning, using			
		various strategies-			
		experimentation,			

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		inquiry, observation,		(
		play and exploration;			
		(ii) Ensuring			
		opportunities for			
		creative self-expression			
		through activities such			
		as art, music,			
		movement, and			
		dialogue;			
		(iii) Promoting			
		interaction and			
		language use among			
		children and between			
		children and adults; and			
		(iv) Supporting			
		emerging literacy and			
		numeracy development			
		through materials and activities according to			
		the developmental level			
		of each child.			
		1304.21(c)(1)(i-vii) –			
		page 77-82:			
		(c) Child development			
		and education approach			
		for preschoolers.			
		(1) Grantee, in			
		collaboration with the			
		parents, must			
		implement a			

MONTANA EARLY LEARNING GUIDELINES	HEAD START CHILD OUTCOMES	HEAD START PERFORMANCE	HEAD START PRISM QUESTIONS	MONTANA EARLY CARE & EDUCATION	MONTANA PUBLIC EDUCATION CONTENT
LEARNING GUIDELINES	(Domain, Domain Element, &	STANDARDS	(# & Area)	KNOWLEDGE BASE	STANDARDS
	Indicators)	(Standard & Page #)	(" a rica)	(Content Area & Page #)	
		curriculum that:		(00000000000000000000000000000000000000	
		(i) Supports each			
		child's individual			
		pattern of development			
		and learning;			
		(ii) Provides for the			
		development of			
		cognitive skills by			
		encouraging each child			
		to organize his or her			
		experiences, to			
		understand concepts,			
		and to develop age			
		appropriate literacy,			
		numeracy, reasoning,			
		problem solving and			
		decision-making skills			
		which form a			
		foundation for school			
		readiness and later			
		school success;			
		(iii) Integrates all			
		educational aspects of			
		the health, nutrition,			
		and mental health			
		services into program			
		activities; (iv) Ensures			
		that the program			
		environment helps			
		children develop			

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	Indicators)	(Standard & Page #)		(Content Area & Page #)	
		emotional security and			
		facility in social			
		relationships;			
		(v) Enhances each			
		child's understanding			
		of self as an individual			
		and as a member of a			
		group; (vi) Provides			
		each child with			
		opportunities for			
		success to help develop			
		feelings of competence,			
		self-esteem, positive			
		attitudes toward			
		learning; (vii) Provides			
		individual and small			
		group experiences both			
		indoors and outdoors.			

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